

Application Integration Maturity Model

Higher levels of integration maturity means faster response to market changes

Typical time-frames to implement new applications or make major changes to existing systems

1-3 Months

3-6 Months

6-12 Months

12-24 Months

Pre-Integration

Characteristics:

- Stand-alone systems with few interfaces
- "Stovepipe" processes with little organizational re-use
- Manual re-entry and synchronization of data between apps

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LEVEL 1

Point-to-point Integration

Characteristics:

- Point-to-point custom interfaces using API's or data synchronization tools
- Message oriented middle-ware tools
- Loosely coupled systems

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LEVEL 2

Structural Integration

Characteristics:

- Interface architecture deployed as hub-&-star or message-bus
- Middle-ware includes message brokers or application servers
- Middle-ware features:
 - data transformation
 - rules processing
 - transaction integrity
- Enterprise Application Interface Model exists

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ETC

LEVEL 3

Process Integration

Characteristics:

- Leverages Level 2 interface architecture as commodity
- Information between systems is not just shared - it is managed
- Middle-ware includes process automation modeling tools
- Middle-ware features:
 - workflow modeling
 - automated routing
 - automated decisions
- Enterprise Business Model exists

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LEVEL 4

External Integration

Characteristics:

- Leverages EAI-enabled applications from the first 3 levels across organizations
- Common network infrastructure such as the Internet
- Common data standards such as XML
- Middle-ware features:
 - secure transactions
 - intelligent agents
 - data mapping
 - application semantics
 - interface adaptation
- Common applications include B2B and B2C

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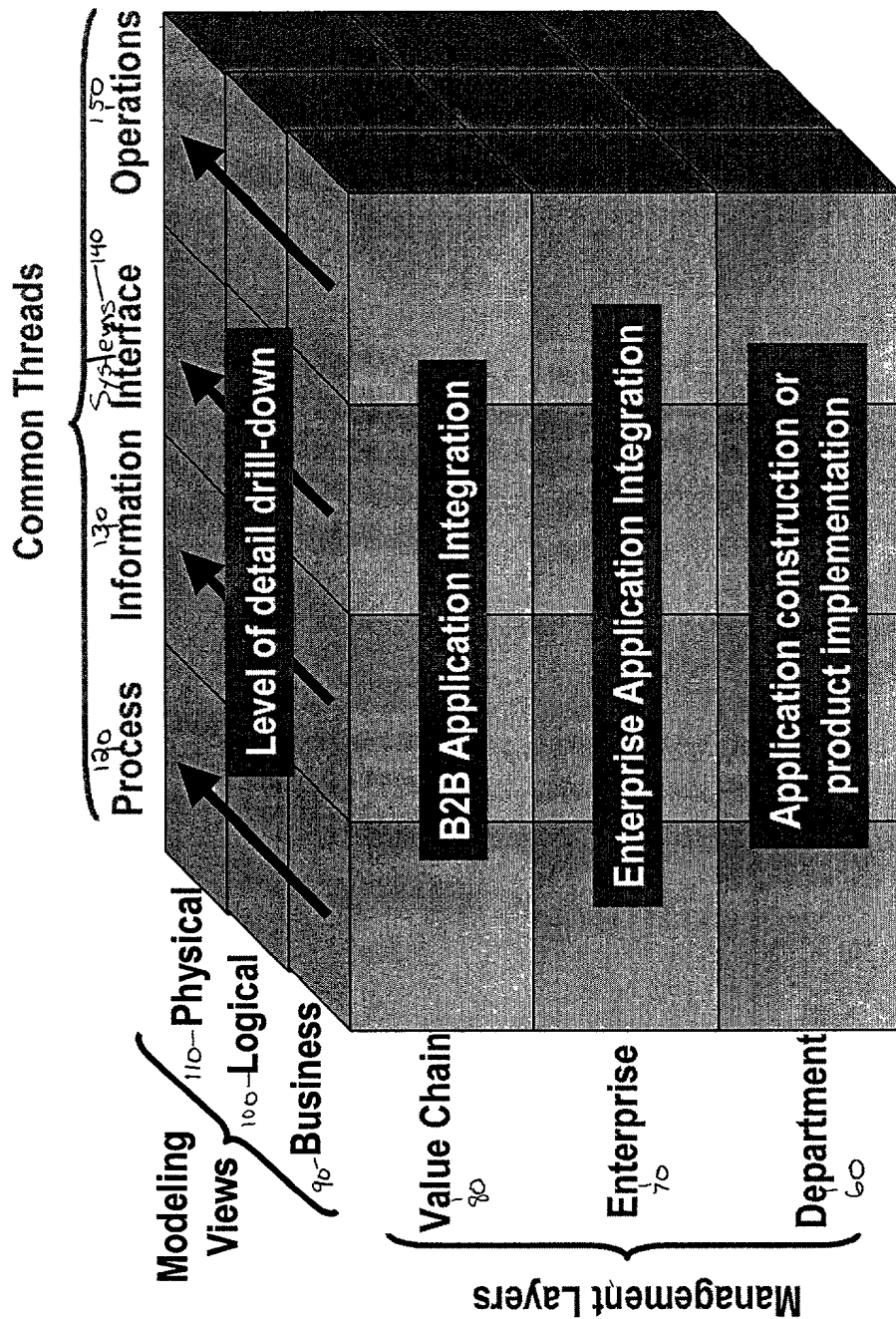


FIG. 2

